

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Ninth Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.

Residents of Ninth Middlesex Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (583) of these admissions reside in the Ninth Middlesex Representative District.¹ **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Ninth Middlesex Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 79% were male and 21% were female.
- 61% were between the ages of 30-49.
- 81% were white non-Latino, 3% were black non-Latino, 10% were Latino, and 6% were other racial categories.
- 63% were never married, 19% were married, and 18% reported not to be married now.
- 22% had less than high school education, 51% completed high school, and 26% had more than high school education.
- 39% were employed.
- 14% were homeless.
- 24% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a "primary drug" of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Ninth Middlesex Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	58%	26%	5%	4%	2%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use.

¹ To protect client confidentiality, statistics representing clients under 17 years of age have been omitted from this fact sheet.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2							
Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2003							
Ninth Middlesex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	926	821	286	273	164	177	139
FY '96	900	781	305	278	165	154	114
FY '97	950	846	268	271	159	187	153
FY '98	835	710	211	217	104	198	148
FY '99	792	681	194	195	98	239	188
FY '00	847	709	235	170	94	219	171
FY '01	746	596	209	176	83	185	141
FY '02	774	609	226	155	70	261	205
FY '03	583	446	147	128	54	180	131